

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus comprising:
 - an enclosure adapted to hold a plurality of telecommunications equipment components;
- 5 means for passing air into said enclosure in order to cool said plurality of telecommunications equipment components;
 - a filter for preventing airborne contaminants from entering said enclosure; and
 - means for detecting a first air pressure, said first air pressure indicative
- 10 of a pressure of air exiting said filter and entering said enclosure;
 - means for detecting a second air pressure, said second air pressure indicative of a reference air pressure; and
 - means for generating a signal indicative of said first air pressure crossing a desired threshold relative to said second air pressure.
- 15 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for detecting a first air pressure and said means for detecting a second air pressure comprise a single pressure differential switch device.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said second air pressure is the pressure of the ambient air surrounding said enclosure.
- 20 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for detecting a first air pressure comprises a pressure differential switch device directly in contact with said air exiting said filter.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for detecting a first air pressure comprises a pressure differential switch device indirectly in contact with said air exiting said filter.
- 25 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for detecting a second air pressure comprises a pressure differential switch device directly in contact with air associated with said reference air pressure.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said means for detecting a second air pressure comprises a pressure differential switch device indirectly in contact with air associated with said reference air pressure.
8. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said pressure differential switch device is attached to a surface of said enclosure in a way such that said means for detecting a first air pressure is in direct contact with said air exiting said filter and said means for detecting a second air pressure is in direct contact with the ambient air surrounding said enclosure.
9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said pressure differential switch device is attached to an internal surface of said enclosure.
10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said pressure differential switch device is attached to an external surface of said enclosure.